

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 23, 2004. Claims 1, 3-21 are pending in the application. By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection in view of the amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

By the Office Action, claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,475,440 to Kobayashi et al. (hereinafter Kobayashi).

Kobayashi is directed to a system for correcting digital time error in a video signal. Kobayashi delays or speeds up a signal to ensure proper signal synchronization. While the present invention includes aspects of this technology, Kobayashi is completely different in both function and structure. Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the differences between Kobayashi and the present invention.

Claim 1 of the present invention, includes, *inter alia*, a detection circuit for detecting a horizontal synchronization signal component of said video signal, said detection circuit including a horizontal lock detector for determining whether said horizontal synchronization signal is received at appropriate intervals, said horizontal lock detector producing an error signal indicative of the absence of a valid horizontal synchronization signal; and

a control circuit which selectively controls recording of video information from said video signal responsive to detecting said horizontal synchronizing signal.

According to Kobayashi at col. 3, lines 61-65, a horizontal lock signal is obtained from an error calculating circuit 17 and is used to indicate that for a PLL loop circuit, a

horizontal sync error signal is locked. A lock signal is the error signal obtained from an error circuit. In stark contrast, the claim language of claim 1 provides, *inter alia*, a horizontal lock detector produces an error signal indicative of the absence of a valid horizontal synchronization signal. This is completely different in that the lock detector produces an error signal to indicate that horizontal synchronization signal has not been detected. This is not disclosed or suggested by Kobayashi.

In addition, Kobayashi does not disclose or suggest a control circuit which selectively controls recording of video information from said video signal responsive to detecting said horizontal synchronizing signal. The control circuit identified by the Examiner synchronizes a synch signal to a video signal, but does not disclose or suggest selectively controlling the recording of video information, as now recited in claim 1. Kobayashi does not provide such functionality or structure and therefore fails to teach all of the elements of claim 1.

Since Kobayashi fails to disclose any of the previously described aspects of the present invention, claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated. Claim 8 is also believed to be in condition for allowance at least due to its dependency from claim 1. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

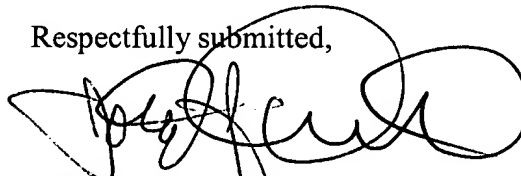
By the Office Action, claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,037,994 to Bae (hereinafter Bae).

Bae is cited to teach a vertical synchronization signal since Kobayashi does not. While the Applicant disagrees with the rejection, it is believed that claim 5 is allowable over the cited combination due at least to its dependency from claim 1. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 9-21 and the allowability of claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph J. Kolodka', written over a horizontal line.

By: Joseph J. Kolodka, Attorney
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DATE: 20 April 2004

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